

indicated by underlining as follows:

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B²
B³
B⁴
1. (twice amended) A method for securing an information stream comprising a sequence of image [information] frames, said method comprising the steps of:

segmenting said information stream into a plurality of information stream segments having a first segment sequence, each of said information stream segments comprising a plurality of image [information] frames;

compressing said image [information] frames forming said information stream segments, where said step of compressing said image frames produces control information indicative of buffer behavior;

re-sequencing said information stream segments to produce a re-sequenced information stream having a second segment sequence, said first segment sequence being related to said second segment sequence by an index; and

encrypting said re-sequenced information stream and said index.

7. (twice amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

B²
each of said information stream segments comprises a first number of compressed image [information] frames.

8. (twice amended) The method of claim 7, wherein:

in the case of an information stream segment including one or more predictively encoded compressed image [information] frames, said one or more predictively encoded compressed image [information] frames being predictively encoded using reference image [information] frames within said information stream segment including said one or more predictively encoded compressed image [information] frames.

B²
cont

9. (twice amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
a first compressed image [information] frame within
each of said information stream segments comprises an
intra-coded frame.

B³

13. (twice amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said
image information stream and said audio information stream
are encrypted using at least one of:
a common encryption technique using a common
encryption key;
different encryption keys using said common encryption
technique;
[said] different encryption techniques using said
common encryption key; and
said different encryption techniques using said
different encryption keys.

14. (twice amended) The method of claim 1, wherein
[said step of compressing said information frames
produces control information indicative of buffer behavior;
and]
said step of encrypting includes a step of encrypting
said indicia of buffer behavior.

15. (twice amended) A method for recovering image
[information] frames from an information stream formed
according to the securing method of claim 1, said method
for recovering comprising the steps of:
recovering said index relating said second segment
sequence to said first segment sequence;

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102

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decrypting said encrypted information stream segments to produce corresponding decrypted information stream segments;

re-sequencing, using said recovered index, said decrypted information stream segments; and

decompressing, using a decompression process associated with said compression process, said compressed image [information] frames included within said decrypted information stream segments.

23. (twice amended) A method for recovering an information stream having a first segment sequence from an encrypted re-sequenced information stream having a second segment sequence, said method comprising the steps of:

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recovering an index relating said second segment sequence to said first segment sequence;

decrypting said encrypted information segments to form respective decrypted information segments;

re-sequencing, using said recovered index, said decrypted information segments to form an information stream comprising a plurality of image [information] segments arranged according to said first segment sequence; and

decompressing a plurality of image [information] frames forming each of said information stream segments, where said step of decompressing said image frames produces control information indicative of said buffer behavior.

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24. (twice amended) An apparatus comprising:

a segmentation module, for segmenting an information stream into a plurality of information stream segments, said information stream segments arranged according to a